JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

purpose of initiating the civil d	deket sheet. (BEE MSTROE	ADAT TABLE	n maro	nur.)					
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS	3				
Yakitori Boy, Inc.				Starr Indemnity & Liability Co., Samuel Sierra					
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Philadelphia, PA (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Dallas County, TX (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, James L. Pearl Law Office of James L. F 1500 John F. Kennedy B	Pearl	•	103	Attorneys (If Known) William P Shelley Gordon & Rees LI Three Logan Squa	& Alexand LC	ler Brown (atto	rneys for Starr	Inder	nnity)
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)		TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPA	L PARTIES	(Place an "X" in On	e Box fo	r Plaintif
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government	Not a Party)			TF DEF	Incorporated or Proof Business In T	incipal Place	Defenda TF 4	nt) DEF □ 4
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	■ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another State	2 2 2	Incorporated and F of Business In A		O 5	않 5⁻
			1	n or Subject of a 💢	3 🗆 3	Foreign Nation		o 6	□ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			1 00			here for: Nature of			
## CONTRACT ## 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise ### REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability ☐ 320 Assault, Libel &	PERSONAL INJUR 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER 378 Other Fraud 379 Other Fraud 370 Other Fraud 370 Other Fraud 370 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIO Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Oth 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee Conditions of Confinement	1	Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 Ocher LABOR D Fair Labor Standards Act C Labor/Management Relations D Railway Labor Act Family and Medical Leave Act C Other Labor Litigation Employee Retirement Income Security Act I MMIGRATION 2 Naturalization Application Actions	422 Appe 423 With 28 U 28 U 28 U 29 U 330 Pater 835 Pater New 840 Trade 861 HIA 862 Black 863 DIW 864 SSID 865 RSI (RTY RIGHTS vrights at tar - Abbreviated Drug Application emark EECURITY (1395ff) k Lung (923) C/DIWW (405(g)) D'Title XVI (405(g)) AL TAX SUITS s (U.S. Plaintiff efendant)	OTHERST 375 False Claim 376 Qui Tam (3 3729(a)) 400 State Reapp 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer II Corrupt Org 480 Consumer (0 490 Cable/Sat T 850 Securities/C Exchange 890 Other Statur 891 Agricultura 893 Environmen 895 Freedom of Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrat Act/Review Agency Dec 950 Constitution State Statute	is Act 1 USC ortionm fluence canizatic credit V Commod tory Act Acts tal Mattu Informative Procession ality of	ed and ons ditties/ tions ers ation
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION IN THE Proceeding States of ACTION IN THE PROCEED IN THE PROCEDURE IN TH	Cite the U.S. Civil State 28 U.S.C. §13320 Brief description of cal Insurance contract CHECK IF THIS	Appellate Court itute under which you an (a) & 28 U.S.C. § 14 use: ct dispute regarding IS A CLASS ACTION	the app	AAMIDIC	er District tutes unless div erage	HECK YES only	Lit Dir	igation ect File	n - e
COMPLAINT: VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	UNDER RULE 2 (See instructions):				<u>J</u> ī	URY DEMAND:	□ Yes)	No	
DATE 9/24/18	?	SIGNATURE OF ATT	TORNEY O	F RECORD	DOCKE	T NUMBER	111111111111111111111111111111111111111		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	OÜNT	ADDI VING ICD		ППСЕ		MAG WW	OF.		

and rather the comprehensional service.

JS 44 Reverse (Rev. 06/17)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I.(a)** Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
 - (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
 - (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below. United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box. Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
 Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.
 - Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.
 - Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
 - Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
 - Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
 - Multidistrict Litigation Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.
 - Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.

 PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statue.
- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

Case 2:18-cv-04094-MMB Document 1 Filed 09/24/18 Page 3 of 28 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

DESIGNATION FORM

(to be used by counsel or pro se plaintiff to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

Address of Flamuii.	Boy - 211 N. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107				
Address of Defendant: Starr - 399 Park Ave, 8th Fl.	, New York, NY 1022; Samuel Sierra - 2137 N. Front St., Philadelphia, PA 19122				
	Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: Philadelphia, PA				
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:					
Case Number: Judg	ge: Date Terminated:				
Civil cases are deemed related when Yes is answered to any	y of the following questions:				
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?					
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit yes No Very pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?					
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court?					
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, socia case filed by the same individual?	al security appeal, or pro se civil rights Yes No				
this court except as noted above.	is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in				
DATE: 9/24/18 M	Attorney-at-Law/Pro Se Plaintiff Attorney I.D. # (if applicable)				
CIVIL: (Place a √ in one category only)	D. Diversity Ventalistics Cover				
 A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other 	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:				
2. FELA	2. Airplane Personal Injury				
3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust	3. Assault, Defamation4. Marine Personal Injury				
5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations	5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury6. Other Personal Injury (Please specify):				
7. Civil Rights	7. Products Liability				
8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases	8. Products Liability – Asbestos 9. All other Diversity Cases				
☐ 10. Social Security Review Cases ☐ 11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify):	(Please specify):				
(The effect of this	ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION certification is to remove the case from eligibility for arbitration.)				
Alexander S. Brown	of record or pro se plaintiff, do hereby certify:				
Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, § 3(c) (2), that exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interesting the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of the sum of \$150,000	to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case est and costs:				
Relief other than monetary damages is sought.					
DATE: 9/24/18	Attorney-at-Law/Pro Se Plaintiff Attorney I.D. # (if applicable)				
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

DESIGNATION FORM
(to be used by counsel or pro se plaintiff to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

Address of Plaintiff: Yakitori Boy - 211 N. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 191	107
Address of Defendant: Starr - 399 Park Ave, 8th Fl., New York, NY 1022; Samuel Sierra - 2137 N. Front St., Pl	hiladelphia, PA 19122
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: Philadelphia, PA	
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:	
Case Number: Judge: Date Terminated:	
Civil cases are deemed related when Yes is answered to any of the following questions:	
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?	No
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit yes pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?	No 🗸
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court?	No 🗸
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights case filed by the same individual?	No 🗸
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is / is not related to any case now pending or within one year previous this court except as noted above.	ısly terminated action in
DATE: 9/24/18 Attorney-at-Law/Pro Se Plaintiff Attorney	TC(I.D. # (if applicable)
CIVIL: (Place a √ in one category only)	
A. Federal Question Cases: B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:	
1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts 2. FELA 2. Airplane Personal Injury 3. Assault, Defamation 4. Antitrust 4. Marine Personal Injury 5. Patent 5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury 6. Labor-Management Relations 6. Civil Rights 7. Civil Rights 7. Products Liability 8. Habeas Corpus 8. Products Liability - Asbestos 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 9. All other Personal Question Cases (Please specify): 7. Products Liability - Asbestos 9. All other Personal Rights 7. Products Liability - Asbestos 9. All other Diversity Cases 9. All other Diversity Cases 9. All other Personal Rights 9. All other Diversity Cases 9. All other Diversity Ca	
ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION (The effect of this certification is to remove the case from eligibility for arbitration.)	
I,, counsel of record or pro se plaintiff, do hereby certify:	
Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, § 3(c) (2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in texceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs:	this civil action case
Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	
DATE: 9/24/18 Matterney-at-Law/Pro Se Plaintiff Attorney I.	D. # (if applicable)
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.	21.0.12 -22.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Yakitori Boy, Inc		CIVIL ACTION	
filing the complaint and serv side of this form.) In the edesignation, that defendants	we a copy on all defendants. (event that a defendant does shall, with its first appearanties, a Case Management 1	NO. ay Reduction Plan of this court, coun ignation Form in all civil cases at the t (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the r s not agree with the plaintiff regardinace, submit to the clerk of court and se Track Designation Form specifying the igned.	everse g said rve on
SELECT ONE OF THE FO	OLLOWING CASE MAN	AGEMENT TRACKS:	
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases	brought under 28 U.S.C. §	2241 through § 2255.	()
	requesting review of a deci- nying plaintiff Social Securi	sion of the Secretary of Health ity Benefits.	()
(c) Arbitration – Cases requ	ired to be designated for ar	bitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2.	()
(d) Asbestos – Cases involv exposure to asbestos.	ring claims for personal inju	ary or property damage from	()
commonly referred to as the court. (See reverse s management cases.)	s complex and that need spe side of this form for a detail	•	
(f) Standard Management – 9 /24 /いる Date	4.		Liability Co
	•	<i>j</i>	
267-602-2043	215-693-6650	abrown@grsn.c	.0
Telephone	FAX Number	E-Mail Address	

(Civ. 660) 10/02

Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan Section 1:03 - Assignment to a Management Track

- (a) The clerk of court will assign cases to tracks (a) through (d) based on the initial pleading.
- (b) In all cases not appropriate for assignment by the clerk of court to tracks (a) through (d), the plaintiff shall submit to the clerk of court and serve with the complaint on all defendants a case management track designation form specifying that the plaintiff believes the case requires Standard Management or Special Management. In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a case management track designation form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.
- (c) The court may, on its own initiative or upon the request of any party, change the track assignment of any case at any time.
- (d) Nothing in this Plan is intended to abrogate or limit a judicial officer's authority in any case pending before that judicial officer, to direct pretrial and trial proceedings that are more stringent than those of the Plan and that are designed to accomplish cost and delay reduction.
- (e) Nothing in this Plan is intended to supersede Local Civil Rules 40.1 and 72.1, or the procedure for random assignment of Habeas Corpus and Social Security cases referred to magistrate judges of the court.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CASE ASSIGNMENTS (See §1.02 (e) Management Track Definitions of the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan)

Special Management cases will usually include that class of cases commonly referred to as "complex litigation" as that term has been used in the Manuals for Complex Litigation. The first manual was prepared in 1969 and the Manual for Complex Litigation Second, MCL 2d was prepared in 1985. This term is intended to include cases that present unusual problems and require extraordinary treatment. See §0.1 of the first manual. Cases may require special or intense management by the court due to one or more of the following factors: (1) large number of parties; (2) large number of claims or defenses; (3) complex factual issues; (4) large volume of evidence; (5) problems locating or preserving evidence; (6) extensive discovery; (7) exceptionally long time needed to prepare for disposition; (8) decision needed within an exceptionally short time; and (9) need to decide preliminary issues before final disposition. It may include two or more related cases. Complex litigation typically includes such cases as antitrust cases; cases involving a large number of parties or an unincorporated association of large membership; cases involving requests for injunctive relief affecting the operation of large business entities; patent cases; copyright and trademark cases; common disaster cases such as those arising from aircraft crashes or marine disasters; actions brought by individual stockholders; stockholder's derivative and stockholder's representative actions; class actions or potential class actions; and other civil (and criminal) cases involving unusual multiplicity or complexity of factual issues. See §0.22 of the first Manual for Complex Litigation and Manual for Complex Litigation Second, Chapter 33.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

YAKITORI BOY, INC.	:	
211 N. 11 th Street	:	
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107	:	
	•	

Plaintiff, : CIVIL ACTION NO.____

STARR INDEMNITY & LIABILITY, CO. 399 Park Avenue, 8th Floor

v.

New York, New York 10022

and

SAMUEL SIERRA 2137 N. Front Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19122

Defendants.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

TO: CLERK OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

United States District Court 2609 U. S. Courthouse 601 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19106

Defendant, Starr Indemnity & Liability Company ("Starr"), by and through undersigned counsel, Gordon & Rees LLP, files this Notice of Removal of the above-captioned action from the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, in the September Term, 2018, Number 001289, in which this action was filed, to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and in support thereof, avers as follows:

1. This action arises from an insurance coverage dispute between Starr and its

insured, Yakitori Boy, Inc. ("Yakitori") related to Starr's duty to defend and indemnify Yakitori in an underlying personal injury action pending in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas (the "Sierra Action").

- 2. Neither party disputes that Starr has a duty to defend and (potentially) indemnify Yakitori in the Sierra Action pursuant to a policy of insurance Starr issued to Yakitori for the 2013-2014 term (the "Policy"). In fact, Starr is currently defending Yakitori in the Sierra Action. Rather, Yakitori and Starr disagree over the applicable limits of insurance.
- 3. Yakitori has recently expressed the position that the Policy provides coverage limits of \$1,000,000. Starr submits that Yakitori is only entitled to the Assault and Battery sublimit of \$100,000.
- 4. Yakitori filed a declaratory judgment action in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas on September 12, 2018 (the "Coverage Action") seeking a declaration that it is entitled to coverage limits of \$1,000,000. See Coverage Action Complaint at ¶ 21, attached as Exhibit 1.
- 5. The Complaint names Starr as a defendant. Ex. 1. Starr is a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Texas and has a principal place of business in the State of New York. Ex. 1 at ¶ 2.
- 6. Starr has not been formally served with the Complaint. Counsel for Yakitori, however, forwarded a copy of the Complaint to Starr's Counsel on September 12, 2018. *See* September 12, 2018 e-mail from James Pearl to William Shelley, attached as Exhibit 2.
- 7. The Complaint also names Samuel Sierra, the plaintiff in the underlying Sierra Action, as a nominal defendant pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 7540. Sierra is a resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Exhibit 1 at ¶ 3.
 - 8. 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 7540 provides that: "When declaratory relief is sought, all persons

shall be made parties who have or claim any interest which would be affected by the declaration, and no declaration shall prejudice the rights of persons not parties to the proceeding."

- 9. Sierra's interest in the Coverage Action derives from his status as a potential recipient of the insurance proceeds. To the extent that Sierra obtains a judgment against Yakitori or settles the Sierra Action with Yakitori, such settlement or judgment may be paid for, at least in part, by the proceeds from the Starr Policy. Sierra is therefore interested in obtaining a declaration that the policy limits are \$1,000,000 as opposed to \$100,000.
- 10. Although Sierra is listed as a nominal defendant in the Coverage Action, his interests are aligned with Yakitori's for purposes of this litigation.
- 11. A copy of this Notice of Removal is being filed with the Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, and is being served upon plaintiffs and all parties of record pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1446(d).
- 12. The Eastern District of Pennsylvania is the proper district for removal pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 118(a) and 1441(a) in that the Eastern District of Pennsylvania encompasses the County of Philadelphia, and "is the district and division embracing the place where such action is pending."

SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

- 13. Subject matter jurisdiction is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) in that this is an action between citizens of different States.
- 14. The Plaintiff, Yakitori, is an individual and citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Exhibit 1 at ¶ 1.
- 15. Defendant Starr is a citizen of both Texas and New York, and nominal Defendant Sierra is a citizen of Pennsylvania.

- 16. Although Yakitori and Sierra are citizens of the same state, Sierra's citizenship does not destroy diversity because this Court must look beyond the party designations pled by Yakitori and align the parties based upon their genuine interests in the lawsuit. *City of Indianapolis v. Chase Nat'l Bank*, 314 U.S. 63, 69 (1941) ("It is our duty, as it is that of the lower federal courts, to look beyond the pleadings and arrange the parties according to their sides in the dispute.") (internal citations omitted). "Where party designations have jurisdictional consequences," a court must "align the parties before determining jurisdiction." *Dev. Fin. Corp. v. Alpha Housing & Health Care, Inc.*, 54 F.3d 156, 160 (3d Cir. 1995).
- 17. In determining whether realignment of parties is appropriate, the Third Circuit employs the "primary purpose" or "primary issue" test. *Emp'rs Ins. of Wausau v. Crown Cork & Seal Co., Inc.*, 942 F.2d 862, 864 (3d Cir. 1991). Under this test, the Court looks to the "primary and controlling matter in dispute" and "plaintiff's principal purpose for filing its suit." *Id.*
- 18. After identifying the primary issue in controversy in the action, the court must then evaluate whether there is a genuine conflict between the parties regarding that issue. *Kelly v. Maxum Specialty Ins. Grp.*, No. 14-7149, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3526, at *11 (E.D. Pa. Jan. 9, 2018).
- 19. In this coverage action, the primary issue (really the only issue) concerns the coverage limits available under the Policy.
- 20. As the plaintiff in the underlying case, Sierra's only interest is in collecting a potential judgment against Yakitori. The greater the Policy's limits of insurance, the more money Sierra may be able to recover.
- 21. Sierra's interests are therefore directly aligned with Yakitori's position that the Policy provides \$1,000,000 in limits, and adverse to Starr's position that the Policy is limited to

the \$100,000 sublimit. See Kelley, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3526, at *17 (holding that realignment was proper because the underlying plaintiff's interests were properly aligned with the insured seeking coverage, and adverse to the insurer who declined to provide a defense in the underlying lawsuit).

- 22. This Court, therefore, should realign the parties so that both Yakitori and Sierra are named plaintiffs. *Id.*
- 23. When properly aligned, removal is proper because there is complete diversity between Defendant Starr, a citizen of Texas and New York, and Plaintiffs Sierra, and Yakitori, who are citizens of Pennsylvania.
- 24. The subject matter jurisdictional amount is satisfied here because Yakitori is seeking a determination that the Policy provides \$1,000,000 in coverage, which exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.
- 25. Accordingly, this Court has subject matter jurisdiction, founded on diversity of citizenship under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).

REMOVAL JURISDICTION

- 26. Insofar as subject matter jurisdiction is being invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332(a), 28 U.S.C. § 1441(b) does not apply or operate to prevent removal, because, when properly aligned, there is no defendant that is a citizen of the forum.
- 27. Removal jurisdiction exists, and it is therefore proper for this matter to be removed to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

WHEREFORE, notice is given that the state court action is removed from the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Alexander S. Brown
William P. Shelley
Alexander S. Brown
Gordon & Rees, LLP
1717 Arch Street, Suite 610
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 717-4001
wshelley@gordonrees.com
Attorneys for Defendant
Starr Indemnity & Liability Company

Dated: September 24, 2018

Exhibit 1

Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County For Prothonotary Use Only (Docket Number) **Trial Division** SEPTEMBER 2018 001289 Civil Cover Sheet E-Filing Number: 1809020439 PLAINTIFF'S NAME DEFENDANT'S NAME STARR INDEMNITY & LIABILITY COMPANY YAKITORI BOY, INC. DEFENDANTS ADDRESS 399 PARK AVENUE, 8TH FLOOR PLAINTIFF'S ADDRESS 211 N. 11TH STREET NEW YORK NY 10022 PHILADELPHIA PA 19107 DEFENDANT'S NAME PLAINTIFF'S NAME SAMUEL SIERRA PLAINTIFF'S ADDRESS DEFENDANTS ADDRESS 2137 N. FRONT STREET PHILADELPHIA PA 19122 PLAINTIFF'S NAME DEFENDANT'S NAME DEFENDANT'S ADDRESS PLAINTIFF'S ADDRESS COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION TOTAL NUMBER OF PLAINTIFFS TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS ☐ Notice of Appeal **X** Complaint ☐ Petition Action 1 ☐ Transfer From Other Jurisdictions ☐ Writ of Summons AMOUNT IN CONTROVERSY COURT PROGRAMS Arbitration ☐ Mass Tort Commerce ☐ Settlement \$50,000,00 or less ☐ Jury ☐ Minor Court Appeal ☐ Minors ☐ Savings Action More than \$50,000.00 ☐ Non-Jury ☐ Petition ☐ Statutory Appeals ☐ W/D/Survival Other: CASE TYPE AND CODE 1D - INSURANCE, DECLARATORY JUDGMNT STATUTORY BASIS FOR CAUSE OF ACTION FILED IS CASE SUBJECT TO RELATED PENDING CASES (LIST BY CASE CAPTION AND DOCKET NUMBER) COORDINATION ORDER? **PRO PROTHY** YES NO SEP 12 2018 A. SILIGRINI TO THE PROTHONOTARY: Kindly enter my appearance on behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant: YAKITORI BOY, INC. Papers may be served at the address set forth below. NAME OF PLAINTIFF'S/PETITIONER'S/APPELLANT'S ATTORNEY ADDRESS 1500 JOHN F. KENNEDY BOULEVARD JAMES L. PEARL SUITE 900 PHONE NUMBER FAX NUMBER PHILADELPHIA PA 19102 (215) 586-4422 none entered E-MAIL ADDRESS SUPREME COURT IDENTIFICATION NO. james@jamespearl.com 82374 SIGNATURE OF FILING ATTORNEY OR PARTY DATE SUBMITTED JAMES PEARL Wednesday, September 12, 2018, 10:41 am

Exhibit 1

COMMERCE PROGRAM ADDENDUM TO CIVIL COVER SHEET

This case is subject to the Commerce Program because it is not an arbitration matter and it falls within one or more of the following types (check all applicable):

	1.	Actions relating to the internal affairs or governance, dissolution or liquidation, rights or obligations between or among owners (shareholders, partners, members), or liability or indemnity of managers (officers, directors, managers, trustees, or members or partners functioning as managers) of business corporations, partnerships, limited partnerships, limited liability companies or partnerships, professional associations, business trusts, joint ventures or other business enterprises, including but not limited to any actions involving interpretation of the rights or obligations under the organic law (e.g., Pa. Business Corporation Law), articles of incorporation, by-laws or agreements governing sucenterprises;
	2.	Disputes between or among two or more business enterprises relating to transactions, business relationships or contracts between or among the business enterprises. Examples of such transactions, relationships and contracts include:
		a. Uniform Commercial Code transactions;
	Manus declarable. Folio	b. Purchases or sales of business or the assets of businesses;
	344404	c. Sales of goods or services by or to business enterprises;
		d. Non-consumer bank or brokerage accounts, including loan, deposit cash management and investment accounts;
		e. Surety bonds;
		f. Purchases or sales or leases of, or security interests in, commercial, real or personal property; and
		g. Franchisor/franchisee relationships.
	3.	Actions relating to trade secret or non-compete agreements;
	4.	"Business torts," such as claims of unfair competition, or interference with contractual relations or prospective contractual relations;
	5.	Actions relating to intellectual property disputes;
	6.	Actions relating to securities, or relating to or arising under the Pennsylvania Securities Act;
autosidiscenti dilata	7.	Derivative actions and class actions based on claims otherwise falling within these ten types, such as shareholder class actions, but not including consumer class actions, personal injury class actions, and products liability class actions;
·····	8.	Actions relating to corporate trust affairs;
X	9.	Declaratory judgment actions brought by insurers, and coverage dispute and bad faith claims brough by insureds, where the dispute arises from a business or commercial insurance policy, such as a Comprehensive General Liability policy;
Without the American State of	10.	Third-party indemnification claims against insurance companies where the subject insurance policy is a business or commercial policy and where the underlying dispute would otherwise be subject to the Commerce Program, not including claims where the underlying dispute is principally a personal injury claim.

James L. Pearl, Esquire
Attorney I.D. No. 82374
1500 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 900
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102
(215) 586-4422
Attorney for Plaintiff Yakitori Boy, Inc.

Filed and Attested by the Office of Judicial Records 12 SEP 2018 10:41 am A. SILIGRINI

YAKITORI BOY, INC. 211 N. 11th Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

Plaintiff

v.

STARR INDEMNITY & LIABILITY COMPANY
399 Park Avenue, 8th Floor
New York, New York 10022
and
SAMUEL SIERRA
2137 N. Front Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19122

Defendants

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, PA

SEPTEMBER TERM, 2018

No.	

NOTICE TO PLEAD

NOTICE

You have been sued in court. If you wish to defend against the claims set forth in the following pages, you must take action with twenty (20) days after this complaint and notice are served, by entering a written appearance personally or by attorney and filing in writing with the court your defenses or objections to the claims set forth against you. You are warned that if you fail to do so the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you by the court without further notice for any money claimed in the complaint or for any other claim or relief requested by the Plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you.

You should take this paper to your lawyer at once. If you do not have a lawyer or cannot afford one, go to or telephone the office set forth below to find out where you can get legal help.

Philadelphia County Bar Association Lawyer Referral and Information Service One Reading Center Philadelphia, PA 19107 (215) 238-6333 TTY (215) 451-6197

ADVISO

Le han demandada a usted en la corte. Si usted quiere defenderse de estas demandas expuestas en las paginas siguientes, usted tiene veinte (20) dias de plazo al partir de la fecha de la demanda y la notificiacion. Hace falta asentar una comparencia escrita o en persona o con un abogado y entegra a la corte en forma escrita sus defenses o sus objeciones a las demandas en contra de su persona. Sea avisado que si usted no se defiende, la corte tomara medidas y puede continuar la demanda en contra suya sin previo aviso o notificacion. Ademas, la corte puede decidir a favor del demandante y requiere que usted cumpla con todas las provisiones de esta demanda. Usted puede perer dinero o sus propiedades uotros derechos importantes para used.

Lleva esta demanda a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no tiene abogado o si no tiene el dinero suficiente de pagar tal servicio. Vaya en persona o llame por telefono a la oficina cuya direccion se encuentra escrita abajo para averiguar donde se puede conseguir asistencia legal.

Asociacion de Licenciados de Filadelfia Servicio de Referencia e Informacion Legal One Reading Center Philadelphia, PA 19107 (215) 238-6333 (215) 451-6197

COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

Plaintiff Yakitori Boy, Inc. (hereinafter "Yakitori Boy"), by and through its undersigned attorney, James L. Pearl, Esquire, for its Complaint for Declaratory Judgment against Defendants Starr Indemnity & Liability Company (hereinafter "Starr") and Samuel Sierra (hereinafter "Sierra") alleges as follows:

THE PARTIES

- Yakitori Boy is a corporation duly incorporated and validly existing under the laws
 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with an address at 211 N. 11th Street, Philadelphia,
 Pennsylvania 19107.
- 2. Starr is a corporation duly incorporated and validly existing under the laws of the State of Texas with an address at 399 Park Avenue, 8th Floor, New York, New York 10022.
- 3. Sierra is an individual resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with, upon information and belief, an address at 2137 N. Front Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19122.

GROUNDS FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

- 4. Starr issued policy No. SISAM 03391-14 (hereinafter the "Policy") to Yakitori Boy for the period from March 14, 2014 through March 14, 2015. A copy of the Policy is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 5. Yakitori Boy seeks a declaration pursuant to the Declaratory Judgments Act (42 Pa.C.S.A. §7531 et seq.) (hereinafter the "Act") that Starr is required to defend and indemnify Yakitori Boy in connection with the action filed in this Honorable Court by Sierra against Aaron Gordon (hereinafter "Gordon"), Chris Schmid (hereinafter "Schmid") and Yakitori Boy captioned as Sierra v. Gordon et. al., December 2016 Term; No. 02900 (hereinafter the "Sierra Action") in an

amount up to the limits of liability under the Liquor Liability insurance coverage provided by Starr to Yakitori Boy under the Policy.

- 6. Sierra is made a party to this action pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S.A. §7540 as he may have or he may claim an interest which may be affected by the declaration entered by this Honorable Court in this action and so that any declaration may also binding upon him.
- 7. A controversary exists between Starr, Yakitori Boy and Sierra, and by the terms and provisions of the Act, this Honorable Court is invested with the power to declare the rights and liabilities of Yakitori Boy, Starr and Sierra and to order such other relief as this Honorable Court deems appropriate under the facts and circumstances.

THE SIERRA ACTION

- 8. On March 14, 2017, Sierra filed his Second Amended Complaint, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B, alleging in relevant part as follows:
- a. On December 24, 2014, at approximately 1:00 A.M., Sierra was walking with a group of individuals at or near 200 S. 12th Street in Philadelphia. See Exhibit B, ¶6.
- b. Plaintiff was then approached by a group of individuals including Gordon and Schmid. See Exhibit B, ¶7.
- c. Suddenly and without warning, Gordon and Schmid struck Plaintiff about his face and head with a closed fist. See Exhibit B, ¶9.
- d. Plaintiff then attempted to stand up after being assaulted and Gordon and/or Schmid then again punched and/or kicked Sierra about his face and head with a closed fist causing Sierra to lose consciousness. See Exhibit B, ¶10.
- e. Gordon and/or Schmid's conduct was the result of intoxication. See Exhibit

 B, ¶15.

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- f. As a result of Gordon and/or Schmid's conduct, Sierra suffered severe personal injuries, including, but not limited to, brain bleed, traumatic brain injury, post-concussive syndrome, memory loss, confusion and seizure disorder. See Exhibit B, ¶16.
- g. Upon information and belief, Gordon and Schmid spent significant time at Yakitori Boy and were served multiple alcoholic beverages despite both exhibiting clear signs of visible intoxication, including, but not limited to, slurred speech, bloodshot eyes, stuporous behavior, staggering while walking, difficulty sitting and standing and loud and boisterous conduct while at Yakitori Boy before leaving around closing time. See Exhibit B, ¶32.
- h. Yakitori Boy, through their agents, servants and/or employees supplied, furnished, served and/or sold liquor and alcoholic beverages to Gordon and Schmid notwithstanding the fact that Gordon and Schmid were visibly intoxicated. See Exhibit B, ¶30.1
- i. As a further proximate and foreseeable result of Yakitori Boy's act of supplying, furnishing, serving and/or selling alcoholic beverages to visibly intoxicated patrons, Yakitori Boy knew or should have known that such acts could have caused aggressive behavior resulting in Sierra' injuries. See Exhibit B, ¶32.
- j. Yakitori Boy's carelessness and negligence consisted of the following: continuously and repeatedly serving alcoholic beverages to its patrons, including Gordon and Schmid, despite the knowledge that Gordon and Schmid were visibly intoxicated; negligence per se as being in violation of 47 Pa.C.S.A. 4-493(1) unlawful acts relative to liquor, malt and beverages and licenses; failing to have responsible management alcohol program "RAMP" to prevent the service of alcohol to visibly intoxicated persons in violation of 47 Pa.C.S.A. 4-493; and failing to hire proper and qualified bartenders, as well as, have proper and/or other sufficient bartender

¹ The paragraphs of Count III of Plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint are numbered as follows: 31, 32, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35.

training to prevent the service of alcohol to visibly intoxicated patrons in violation of 47 Pa.C.S.A. 4-493. See Exhibit B, ¶33.

k. Yakitori Boy's carelessness and negligent acts and omissions combined with the actions of Gordon and Schmid caused Sierra to suffer serious personal injuries. See Exhibit B, ¶34.

THE POLICY

- 9. The Policy provides, *inter alia*, Commercial General Liability, Liquor Liability and Assault and Battery insurance coverages to Yakitori Boy.
- 10. The Commercial General Liability insurance coverage under the Policy is subject to \$1 million for each occurrence and \$2 million general aggregate limits of liability which Yakitori Boy "becomes legally obligated to pay as damages because of 'bodily injury' or 'property damage' to which this insurance applies" caused by an "occurrence."
- 11. The Liquor Liability insurance coverage under the Policy is subject to \$1 million for each common cause and \$1 million in the aggregate limits of liability and provides that Starr "will pay those sums that the insured becomes legally obligated to pay as damages because of 'injury' to which this insurance applies if liability for such 'injury' is imposed on the insured by reason of the selling, serving or furnishing of any alcoholic beverage."
- 12. The Policy also includes an endorsement for Assault and Battery (hereinafter the "Endorsement") subject to \$100,000 for each occurrence and \$100,000 in the aggregate limits of liability for "those sums that the insured becomes legally obligated to pay as damages for 'bodily injury', 'property damage', or 'personal and advertising injury' arising from 'Assault and/or Battery'."
- 13. The Endorsement modifies the insurance coverages under the Commercial General Liability and Liquor Liability policies and defines Assault and/or Battery as follows:

'Assault and/or Battery' means:

- a. actual or threatened assault or battery whether caused by or at the instigation or direction of any insured, his 'employees', patrons or any other persons; or
- the failure of any insured or anyone else for whom any insured is legally responsible to prevent or suppress assault; or
- c. battery; or
- d. sexual assault and battery;
- e. the negligent:
 - (1) employment;
 - (2) investigation;
 - (3) supervision;
 - (4) training;
 - (5) retention

of a person for whom any insured is or ever was legally responsible and whose conduct is described in a., b., c. and d. above.

14. The claims alleged by Sierra in the Sierra Action meet the definition of "Injury" and/or "Bodily Injury" as defined in the Policy.

STARR'S DEFENSE OF YAKITORI BOY

- 15. Starr has been defending Yakitori Boy in the Sierra Action since the commencement of the Sierra Action.
- 16. By letter, dated August 14, 2018, Specialty Insurance Agency, as the managing general agency for Starr, advised Yakitori Boy that, in defense of the Sierra Action, Starr would not be providing coverage to Yakitori Boy under the coverage limits of liability under the Liquor

Liability insurance in the amount of \$1 million for each common cause and \$1 million in the aggregate, but, rather, Starr would only be providing coverage to Yakitori Boy under the coverage limits of liability under the Endorsement in the amount of \$100,000 for each occurrence and \$100,000 in the aggregate. A copy of the letter from Specialty Insurance Agency to Yakitori Boy, dated August 14, 2018, is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

COUNT I – DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

COVERAGE UNDER THE LIQUOR LIABILITY INSURANCE PROVIDED BY STARR TO YAKITORI BOY APPLIES TO ALL CLAIMS AGAINST YAKITORI BOY AS ALLEGED IN THE SIERRA ACTION

- 17. Yakitori Boy repeats and realleges each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 16 above as though fully set forth herein.
- 18. Starr issued the Policy to Yakitori Boy for the period from March 14, 2014 through March 14, 2015.
- 19. The Liquor Liability insurance coverage under the Policy provides that Starr "will pay those sums that the insured becomes legally obligated to pay as damages because of 'injury' to which this insurance applies if liability for such 'injury' is imposed on the insured by reason of the selling, serving or furnishing of any alcoholic beverage."
- 20. The Liquor Liability insurance coverage under the Policy is also subject to \$1 million for each common cause and \$1 million in the aggregate limits of liability.
- 21. The Liquor Liability insurance coverage under the Policy applies to all claims against Yakitori Boy as alleged in the Sierra Action.

WHEREFORE, Yakitori Boy respectfully requests that this Honorable Court enter judgment as follows:

a. Declaring that Starr has a duty to defend Yakitori Boy and that the Liquor

Liability insurance coverage under the Policy applies to all claims against Yakitori Boy as

alleged in the Sierra Action.

Declaring that Starr's obligation to defend and indemnify Yakitori Boy in b.

connection with the Sierra Action shall be subject to limits of liability in the amount of \$1

million for each common cause and \$1 million in the aggregate;

Declaring that Starr has a duty to reimburse Yakitori Boy for all costs and fees, Ç.

including attorneys' fees, incurred by Yakitori Boy in pursuing this declaratory judgment action;

and

Granting such further relief as the Court may deem appropriate. d.

Dated: September 12, 2018

/s/ James L. Pearl

James L. Pearl, Esquire Attorney I.D. No. 82374

1500 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 900

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

(215) 586-4422

Attorney for Plaintiff Yakitori Boy, Inc.

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VERIFICATION

I, Jin Shen, on behalf of Yakitori Boy, Inc., state that the allegations contained in the foregoing Complaint for Declaratory Judgment are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and I understand that this Verification is made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. §4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Jin Shen

Case ID: 180901289

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I, James L. Pearl, Esquire, certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

/s/ James L. Pearl

James L. Pearl, Esquire
Attorney I.D. No. 82374
1500 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 900
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102
(215) 586-4422
Attorney for Plaintiff Yakitori Boy, Inc.

Case ID: 180901289

Exhibit 2

Amanda Whyte

From: James Pearl <james@jamespearl.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2018 11:25 AM

To: sledva@defensecounsel.com; William Shelley; adenenberg@adlawfirm.com

Subject: Yakitori Boy, Inc. v. Starr Indemnity & Liability Company et al.

Attachments: Exhibits B and C.pdf; Complaint.pdf; Exhibit A - Part 1.pdf; Exhibit A - Part 2.pdf; Exhibit

A - Part 3.pdf

Gentlemen,

Kindly be advised that I represent Yakitori Boy, Inc. in connection with the above-captioned matter. I am now attaching a copy of the Complaint with the attached exhibits which was filed in the Court of Common Pleas this morning.

In light of the filing of this matter, I would suggest that the matter filed by Mr. Denenberg against Yakitori Boy, Inc. be stayed pending the Court's decision in this matter.

Mr. Denenberg, would kindly advise me as to whether you will accept service of the Complaint on behalf of Mr. Sierra.

Mr. Ledva and/or Mr. Shelley, would also kindly advise me as to whether you will accept service of the Complaint on behalf Starr Indemnity & Liability Company.

James L. Pearl, Esquire

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E-Mail: james@jamespearl.com

www.jamespearl.com

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